

APPARATUS FOR AND METHOD OF RETRIEVING DATA CARTRIDGE-RELATED INFORMATION FROM A DATA CARTRIDGE MEMORY

Abstract

In a media storage system including an enclosure having a user-accessible surface, an apparatus for retrieving data cartridge-related information from a memory unit mounted to a data cartridge in relationship to a surface of the housing of the cartridge. The apparatus comprises a registration area on the user-accessible surface of the enclosure, the registration area being configured to be engaged by the surface of the data cartridge housing in registration with the registration area. The apparatus further comprises a reader mounted to the media storage system for receiving from the memory unit a signal containing the data cartridge-related information when the surface of the data cartridge housing is held in engagement with the registration area.

Also disclosed is a method of transferring data cartridge-related information between an IC memory unit mounted to a data cartridge and an IC memory unit reader mounted to a media storage system, the IC memory unit being mounted in relationship to a surface of the cartridge and the IC memory unit reader being mounted in relationship to a user-accessible surface of the media storage system. The method comprises the steps of manually positioning the data cartridge so as to hold the surface of the data cartridge into registered engagement with a registration area on the user-accessible surface of the media storage system; and transferring the information between the IC memory unit and the IC memory unit reader.